

June 21, 2007

Meeting Notes- Land Use Committee

1. Committee members present: Jennifer Gerber, Chuck Roady, Kerry Finley, Myrt Webb, Karen Reeves, Velvet Phillips-Sullivan.
2. There were no changes to the agenda.
3. Discussion of Findings:

The following points were discussed:

- RSID's can be used to fund services as well as capital projects
- Zoning plans and neighborhood plans should have a fiscal element that describes what services are expected and how the services will be funded.
- The Rural Lands Board in the growth policy should be appointed and develop policy for changes happening in the counties rural areas.
- Fire risk information needs to be a formal part of the subdivision approval process.
- Water quality needs to be monitored. Kerry volunteered to find out more information on what water quality information is available.

4. Preliminary Findings:
 - An inappropriate level of human development is occurring in high fire risk areas. This places at a higher risk the chance of fire due to human causes and the potential for significant loss of life and property damage.
 - The community needs to do more to develop land use/preservation options for rural landowners.
 - Present fiscal tools and how they are used do not provide the county the resources to maintain the rural lifestyle demanded by rural residents.
 - The continued unrestricted commercial development along major transportation corridors will degrade important community views, increase traffic and congestion and lower air quality.
 - The cumulative effect of development near unprotected surface water will result in a permanent degradation of the Valley's water quality.
 - The public discourse on property rights is seldom based on a shared definition of those rights or on any factual information from present law or national/state history.

5. The next meeting is 26 July where the discussion will continue on findings.

